

Message Text

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71

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCEM-02 COME-00 INT-08 L-03 H-03

SS-15 NSC-10 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /109 W

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R 102204Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1699

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMCONSUL QUEBEC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN OIL MEASURES: CONSULTATION WITH QUEBEC.

1. A GREAT DEAL OF CANADIAN PRESS CRITICISM OF THE NEW OIL MEASURES HAS CENTERED ON ALLEGED LACK OF PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH THE PROVINCES AFFECTED, AND WITH QUEBEC IN PARTICULAR. TWO RECENT EXCHANGES IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS WITH ENERGY MINISTER MACDONALD ARE PERTINENT ON THIS POINT.

2. ON SEPTEMBER 4, MACDONALD STATED THE FOLLOWING IN THE HOUSE IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIONS:
"MR. SPEAKER, IN THE DISCUSSIONS WE HAVE HAD WITH ALL THE RELEVANT PROVINCES, AS A RESULT OF THE ENERGY ANALYSIS, WE BROACHED WITH THEM AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE SECURITY OF SUPPLY PROBLEM FOR THE EASTERN CANADIAN MARKET AND, PARTICULARLY WITH THE OFFICIALS OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, CONSIDERATIONS THAT MIGHT LEAD TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PIPELINE INTO MONTREAL. I SHOULD SAY THAT THE PARTICULAR PROBLEM THAT IS CONTAINED IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT WAS, OF COURSE, NOT DISCUSSED ALTHOUGH IT WAS COMMUNICATED TO THE RELEVANT PROVINCES BEFORE THE STATEMENT WAS MADE IN THE HOUSE."

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3. ON SEPTEMBER 7, MACDONALD WAS AGAIN QUESTIONED ABOUT

PRIOR CONSULTATION (SPECIFICALLY WITH QUEBEC) AND HE
ANSWERED MORE POSITIVELY AS FOLLOWS:

"MR. SPEAKER, I WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THE FACT THAT WE
HAVE HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH QUEBEC REPRESENTATIVES IN JULY ON
ALL MATTERS RELATING TO ENERGY, PARTICULARLY ON THE
CONSTRUCTION OF AN OIL PIPELINE TO MONTREAL. AND I WILL HAVE
NEXT WEEK THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH MY QUEBEC COUNTERPART
AND I WILL AGAIN BE MOST INTERESTED IN HAVING HIS OPINION
ON THE MATT
ER."
SCHMIDT

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Message Attributes

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